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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

KIDNAPPING OF AMBASSADOR DUBS

SitRep No. 1

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At approximately 0325 hours, Ambassador Adolph Dubs was killed during an assault by Afghan police against two terrorists who were holding him hostage in the Hotel Kabul. The terrorists had taken him from his car several hours earlier. The police assault took place despite repeated requests by our Embassy, acting on the Department's instruction, that the Afghan authorities refrain from any precipitous action which might endanger Ambassador Dubs' safety.

Ambassador Dubs' vehicle had been stopped by several individuals, two of whom reportedly were dressed in Afghan police uniform. They took the Ambassador from the scene on foot to the Kabul Hotel which was quickly surrounded by police. The terrorists demanded the release of three political prisoners in Government custody. The Government reportedly refused to meet the demands. Apparently, the decision to assault was taken by the Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Amin who is reported to have overruled the senior police official at the Hotel.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY W. L. Wollenbor DATE 3-13-81

EDS[]or XDS[]EXT. DATE

TS AUTH. REASON(S)

EXCLUDED BY THE FOLLOWING REASONS []

DECLASSIFIED BY W. L. Wollenbor

RELEASE BY []

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Drafted: M/CT:RDotson:ijg
2/14/79 ijg

Clearance: S/S-O _ L. Wollenbor

Authorizing: M/CT:ACEQuainton

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2/14/85, QUAINTON, A.C.E.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

KIDNAPPING AND KILLING OF AMBASSADOR DUBS

SitRep No. 2
1230 hours

We are proceeding with plans to despatch a Presidential plane, probably tomorrow morning, from Andrews to Kabul. The plane should arrive in Kabul sometime Friday afternoon or evening and return mid-day, Sunday, February 18.

We are seeking approval, in accordance with Mrs. Dubs' request, for burial at Arlington National Cemetery as soon as possible thereafter. We are also discussing with relatives arrangements for a memorial service.

We anticipate that Mrs. Dubs, Ambassador Dubs' brother, Albert, and perhaps one or two other family members will be in the plane to Kabul and return with it. Director General Barnes, NEA Deputy Assistant Secretary Miklos, and M Deputy Assistant Secretary Pieczenik are tentatively scheduled to represent the Department on the plane.

Kabul radio has announced what appears to be an official DRA version, stating that Agghan police acted when the terrorists threatened to kill the Ambassador if their demands were not met within ten minutes. We are still awaiting a detailed Embassy report on the kidnapping and killing of Ambassador Dubs. President Taraki and Foreign Minister Amin have sent a message of condolence to the President and Secretary respectively.

Drafted: NEA/PAB:RLon:bjs Clearance:S/S-0: TRReynders
2/14/79

Authorizing: NEA:JCMiklos

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2/14/85, MIKLOS, Jack C.

DISTB:

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SecDel, Immediate

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

Afghanistan Working Group
Situation Report No. 3
0400 Hours EST, February 15, 1979

No message of condolence has been received by the Presidential party in Mexico, the Department of State or by Embassy Kabul. This is despite a Kabul radio report of about 8:15 p.m. (10:45 a.m. EST) on February 14 that a message was sent by the President of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Nur Mohammed Taraki to President Jimmy Carter expressing "a deep sense of sorrow at this regrettable incident". Kabul radio also reported that a similar message had been sent to Secretary Vance by Afghan Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Hafizollah Amin.

A USAF plane will depart from Andrews AFB at 10 am today for Kabul. The party traveling to Kabul will include Mrs. Dubs, Alexander Dubs (brother), the personal representative of the President, Charles O'Keefe, Director General, Harry Barnes, and NEA Deputy Assistant Secretary Jack Miklos. The aircraft is scheduled to return to Andrews, Sunday February 18 at 1220 pm. The funeral services, at Arlington National Cemetery, are currently scheduled for Tuesday, February 20 at 10 am.

As a result of Soviet involvement in the direction and planning of the Afghan assault which resulted in Ambassador Dub's death, Acting Secretary Warren Christopher called in Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin "to express in the strongest terms the shock of the United States Government over the role played by Soviet advisers to the police of Kabul, Afghanistan". Earlier, Charge' J. Bruce Amstutz had protested in the strongest possible terms to the Afghan Government over its disregard of repeated US advice not to use force against the terrorists.

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Drafted: NEA/PAB:LBenedict:ss
Authorized: S/S-O:Leo R. Wollemborg *Jaw*

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

Afghanistan Working Group
Situation Report #4
1830 Hours EST, February 15, 1979

DISTB:

SecDel, Immediate

S The Kabul-bound Air Force plane, carrying Mrs. Dubs
D and White House Adviser Charles O'Keefe, and other members
P of the official party will accompany Ambassador Dubs body
E to the United States, departed Washington Thursday morning
M and is expected to arrive Friday afternoon Kabul time.
C

T Arrangements are being completed for the planeside
S/S ceremony at Andrews upon the official party's return at
S/S-O(2) 12:20 Sunday afternoon February 18 and for the funeral
S/S-S service at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday morning February 20. We anticipate
PM the Secretary will participate in these two ceremonies.
INR

PA/HO Our Embassy in Kabul is conducting an investigation into
EO the kidnapping and killing of Ambassador Dubs so that we
JNA will have as much information as we can get regarding its
M/CT perpetrators, their motives, and the decisions taken
CA(3) by the DRA.
AID

DC Yesterday afternoon Acting Secretary Christopher pro-
SY tested to Ambassador Dobrynin the role of Soviet advisors in
IA the planning and execution of the raid by the Afghan
ICA police to secure the release of Ambassador Dubs and asked
PA for a full report from Moscow.
EA(10)

UR We are still uncertain whose bullets killed the Amba-
EA sador; it is possible that we may never know. However,
Embassy Kabul has arranged as complete an autopsy as possible
EA(10) and we hope to receive bullets from the Ambassador's body.
UR for forensic analysis.
A

B Condolence messages have been received for the President
ILREP from Prime Minister Taraki, and for the Secretary from
DITOR Foreign Minister Amin.
H (LDX)

OD (LDX) We are preparing a strong protest to the Afghan Govern-
IA(LDX) ment over the handling of this incident. We are also re-
SA(LDX) viewing our relationship with Afghanistan, including our
OE(LDX) assistance programs.
/MO(2)

/P

Drafted: NEA/PAB: RDLorton
Cleared: NEA/PAB: HLucius
M/CT: JJohnson
NEA/EX: SJKrys

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 4, 1981

MEMORANDUM

TO : S/S - [illegible]

FROM : A/CDC/NA - [illegible]

SUBJECT : FOIA Request for Captioned Document(s)
Requester: [illegible] Case No. [illegible]

In processing a FOIA request, FADRC located the attached captioned document which appears to fit the parameters of the request. Subject to your decision on the continued validity of the caption, and any other comment you may wish to make, CDC proposes to take the following action on this document:

- ☐ Declassify and/or excise as shown and release to requestor
- ☐ Reclassify to _____ and deny release under Paragraph _____ of Section 552/552(a)

Since a decision on your part to retain the caption would imply that the document should not be released, you should justify such a decision under the appropriate paragraph(s) of the FOI or Privacy Acts.

Please return the document, with comment, to me in Room 1239.

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See Next Page

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

Afghanistan Working Group
Situation Report #5
1600 Hours EST, February 16, 1979

3/S The special plane carrying Mrs. Dubs and the official party
3/S-0(2) arrived in Kabul early today Washington time. A memorial
3/S-S service is being held for Ambassador Dubs in Kabul and the
PM plane is scheduled to return to Andrews at 12:20 p.m. EST Feb 18.

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CIA(LDX)

NSA(LDX)

4/MO(2)

3/P

Although Embassy Kabul earlier indicated the terrorists who kidnapped Ambassador Dubs may have been connected with militant Muslim conservatives, the DRA now reportedly believes they may have been radical leftists in league with a well-known criminal group in Afghanistan. Sketchy information points to the Setam-I-Melli (or Oppressed Nation) Party, which has been opposed to Pushtun dominance of Afghanistan but at one time had connections with President Taraki's Pushtun-led Khalq Party, and a Majid Gang known to have carried out nighttime raids and robberies in Afghanistan.

The Setam-I-Melli is also believed to have had ties with an Afghan maoist party which has been in eclipse in recent years. One of the known leaders of this party, Bahruddin Bahes, is one of the men whose release the DRA claims was demanded by the terrorists while they held Dubs. Fueled by anti-Americanism, an alliance between the Setam-I-Melli and a criminal gang could alter significantly the security situation for our personnel in Kabul.

Tomorrow, Charge Amstutz is scheduled to deliver to Deputy Foreign Minister Dost the Acting Secretary's protest note to Foreign Minister Amin concerning the Afghan handling of the incident which led to Dubs' death. He also has a meeting with Amin on February 19, the earliest it could take place. Subsequently, the Embassy will deliver a note asking the DRA for details on its investigation into Dubs' death.

We still have not received an official reply from the Soviets to Acting Secretary Christopher's protest and request for a report on Soviet involvement in the Afghan police raid on the room where Dubs was held by his captors. Yesterday, TASS called "absurd" stories in the western press concerning the involvement of persons who "in reality had nothing to do" with the death of the U.S. Ambassador in Kabul.

There has been extensive coverage in the Kabul press of the incident and the Afghan Government has lowered flags to

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to half-staff. According to a Kabul Radio broadcast, the DRA has condemned terrorism and called the killing of Dubs an act "against the good relations of...two friendly nations."

Attached is the official Afghan Embassy in Washington release regarding the kidnapping and killing of Ambassador Dubs.

Late Note: SY is arranging for a TDY security officer to proceed to Kabul to assess the security situation and is also making arrangements to get three TDY Marine Security Guards to Kabul.

Exdis

EXDIS REVIEW	
Cat. A	Caption removed, transferred to O/FADRC
Cat. B	Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S
Cat. C	Caption and custody retained by S/S
Reviewed by:	<i>[Signature]</i>
Date:	<i>4 MAR</i> 19 <i>81</i>

Drafted: NEA/PAB:RDL*orton*

Cleared: NEA/EX:SJKry
EUR/SOV:AMcFarland
EA/PRCM:DAnderson
INR/RNA/SOA:GGriffin
M/CT:JJohnson
NEA/PAB:HLucius
S/S-O:TReynders *[Signature]*

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GDS

DISTR:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

Afghanistan Informal Working Group
Situation Report No. 6
0800 Hours EST, February 18, 1979

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- (U) The plane returning from Kabul with the body of Ambassador Dubs left Torrejon this morning on schedule and is due to arrive at Andrews Air Force Base at 12:20 p.m. EST today. President Carter will attend the planeside ceremony at Andrews (others attending should be at Andrews no later than 11:50 a.m.).
- (C) SY personnel on the scene in Kabul are conducting an investigation into the kidnapping and killing of Ambassador Dubs and will be providing additional reports. They also expect to complete a review of security requirements at post. The Afghan Government has provided protective security to our Charge in Kabul as well as to the Embassy Compound and other Mission offices.
- (C) We have no further information at this time regarding the identities or motives of the kidnapers.
- The Acting Secretary's protest to Foreign Minister Amin was delivered yesterday and we have asked the DRA for a full report of its investigation. Tomorrow morning (Kabul time) our Charge and Country Director Coon will be calling on Foreign Minister Amin to follow up on these matters. We are continuing our review of our posture toward Afghanistan and our programs there.

Drafted: NEA/PAB:RLO/ton
Authorized: SKrys
Clearance: S/S-O: Lwollemborg
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ATT: 15 FEBRUARY

NEWS BULLETIN



د افغانستان د دموکراتیک جمهوریت سفارت
واشنگتن

EMBASSY OF THE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN
WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT IN AFGHANISTAN

Yesterday morning His Excellency Adolph Dubs, US Ambassador to Kabul, Afghanistan, was on route from his residence to the US Embassy, was stopped by terrorists dressed as traffic policemen. The terrorists forced his driver to the Kabul Hotel.

Security forces tried their best to release Ambassador Dubs from the terrorists. The terrorists demanded the release of Bahrudin Bahes, in ten minutes or they would kill Ambassador Dubs. Bahrudin Bahes residence was unknown, and was not in Afghanistan.

When the terrorists gave their last warning, responsible security forces planned the necessary actions to rescue Ambassador Dubs. The four terrorists shot and seriously wounded Ambassador Dubs. The terrorists were then killed by the security forces. Ambassador Dubs was then taken to the American Embassy Hospital in Kabul, where he died.

The government of Afghanistan was strongly saden of this tragic incident. Noor Mohammad Taraki, President of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister, sent his condolences to His Excellency Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America. Hafizullah Amin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, sent his condolences to His Excellency Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State of the United States.

The government of Afghanistan believes that this is the action of the enemy of the people of Afghanistan, the enemy of the friendship between the people of Afghanistan and the people of the United States.